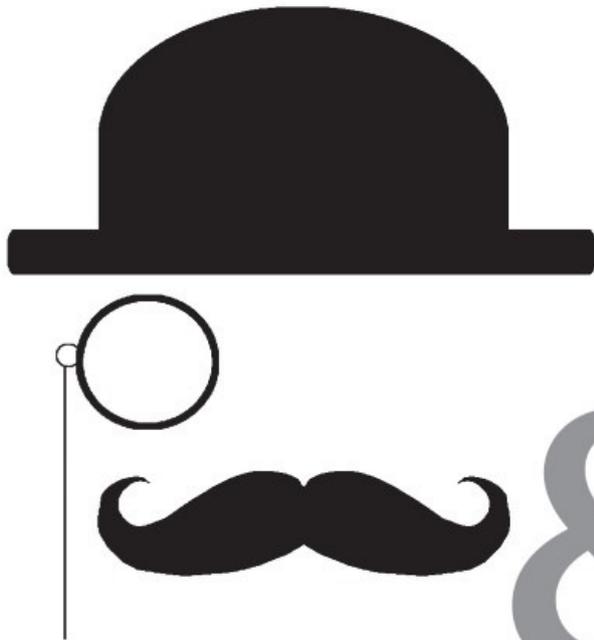


Monday 12th to
December 2016



THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND

TOM STOPPARD

Saturday 17th
at 7.45pm



BLACK COMEDY

PETER SCHAFFER

TWO ONE ACT COMEDIES, DIRECTED BY DON CHERRETT

The 'plot' of this play follows two feuding theatre critics named Moon and Birdboot who are watching a country house murder mystery which is being performed in the style of a whodunit. As events unfold they themselves become involved in the action causing a series of events that parallel the play they are watching.

The majority of this hilarious comedy, set in the 1960s, is played in the dark following a blown fuse! But do not fear, the audience see what the characters in the play can not as they stumble around stage! Desperate in life and love, Brindsley Miller has planned to impress both a wealthy art dealer, by 'borrowing' from his absent antique-collecting neighbour, and the father of his 'fiancée'. However, with the sudden darkness inflicted and the arrival of various unexpected 'guests', confusion reigns leading to a surfeit of comic situations.

For information on booking please see page 2

EDITORIAL

Season Selection 2017/18

Dear Readers

Rehearsals are well under way for *The Real Inspector Hound* and *Black Comedy*. Everyone has their challenges in the former, a spoof by Tom Stoppard. I am getting used to being back on the stage of BLTC after a few years' absence, in the role of Mrs Drudge the cleaning woman. Reg, as Magnus, is having to keep a wheelchair under control. Mike, as the critic Moon is learning many lines (some in the right order). Lady Cynthia is wondering whether she will fit into a particularly extravagant cocktail dress (she's worried about the hips). This play is for anyone who ever read a 'whodunnit' set in an English Country House or wondered why we have theatre critics!

Our new chair person, Rachael, has written an open letter to all our readers so please read her ideas for the club. We do need everyone to help at what seems to be rather a troubled time for Amateur Dramatic Societies due to membership numbers falling. So please consider giving any help you can with any aspect of the club. It's only as good as we make it!

If anyone has any interesting news about members, past or present, or any drama related topic they wish to comment about please let me have it to share with our readers. The contact details are on the back page.

Since this is the last newsletter of the year I wish you an early 'Happy Christmas'.

Cut off date for next newsletter is **31st December**.



Bournemouth Little Theatre would like to base the plays we produce in the next Season on ideas and suggestions from both the membership and audience.

The Play Selection committee will then read through and consider every play suggested - so although it may well seem a little early for the announcement about play selection for the 2017-18 Season, the deadline of 3rd March 2017 will be here before we know it!!

Early submission would also be appreciated to give the Selection Committee plenty of time to review proposals and read scripts.

We therefore invite you to start submitting your suggestions for shows for the 2017-18 Season that you really would like to see or direct.

The play maybe a personal favourite (old or new), or you may need to go to Google, YouTube - or even the Library for inspiration! But whatever play inspires you - we want to know and we look forward to reading the plays you suggest.

Nicola King

ADVANCE TICKET BOOKINGS

Our mailing address for all ticket bookings is:

BLTC Box Office, 54 Wentworth Avenue, Bournemouth BH5 2EG

Tickets £9.50 (with concessions) Members £5.00

Either: BOOK ONLINE at www.BournemouthLittleTheatre.co.uk (booking fees apply)

Or: WRITE enclosing cheque & SAE to BLTC Box Office (address above)

Or: PHONE to book by calling Sue on her home number 01202 417484

★ ONLY between 8.00pm & 9.00pm ★

ONLY DURING THE WEEK Monday 5th December to Friday 9th December 2016

Tickets will be issued on receipt of a completed booking form, cheque and SAE.

Where an SAE is not enclosed, tickets will be retained to be collected at the theatre on the night of the performance.

During the run of the show, telephone enquiries should be made direct to the theatre on 01202 513361 between 6.00pm & 6.45pm only.

Also during the run of the show the Box Office is open from 7.00pm at the theatre for callers in person.

At all other times bookings must be made by post or telephone as set out above.

A final plea - If you have booked tickets and know that you, or one of your party, will not be able to attend the performance, please let Box Office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

An Open Letter from BLT's
New Chairman –
Rachael de Courcy Beamish



Dearest Member, Patron
and Theatre lover

Who would have thought that 22 years after first stepping onto the BLTC stage as 'Woman' in a one act play called *There's a Man in that Tree* (part of a Studio group production), I would find myself elected to the heady heights, delights . . . and challenges of being Chairman? I have to say that it is a role that I am looking forward to undertaking and learning about – so I will start off with my grateful thanks for the general positive comments and support I have received so far from members and the BLT Committee – who I know will guide me along the way!

Many of you will know me from seeing me on the BLT stage over the years; but I have loved performing and being on the stage since I was a child – and this has never diminished. For me, there is something intoxicating about the smell, sounds and feeling one gets when entering a theatre; I have always loved being involved in a production and not just when I'm acting. In my early days of being a member of this club, I learnt under the expert guidance of John Hedford of how to be a stage manager and somehow gained a reputation when undertaking that role of SM on my own, that I was 'she who must be obeyed!!!'

So, although it might not be as glamorous as being under the spotlights and receiving the thunderous applause from an appreciative audience . . . helping out back stage, prompting, Front of House, serving coffees/drinks – the list goes on . . . should give a satisfaction of contributing to the overall, smooth running and look of a production and also because of the community spirit that grows between the cast and crew. Ultimately, we are united and have come together because we share the same common interest of this crazy hobby called 'am dram' and that, ultimately, is what does and should unite us. So if you are not cast, or just want to help out – then do offer to help out in one of the productions.

What do I wish to achieve during my time as Chairman? I know how I feel about BLT – as it has been an integral part of my adult social life – but I won't be so bold as to make any assumptions about what it means to you! I do however have a lot of thoughts and ideas swirling around in my head at the moment – but I won't put everything down right now! I will however regularly put my thoughts down within these newsletters.

One of my first thoughts and feelings is: ideally, I would love to see the community spirit grow again within this theatre group and for us to regain our reputation as one of the top amateur groups in the region. We are so incredibly fortunate to have our own premises, but it takes a lot of people to help the theatre run smoothly and efficiently throughout the Season, and in all honesty it cannot and should not be down to just a few members to undertake it all.

So to that end, my First personal request to you is become involved by being a BLT volunteer! There are quite a few supervisory positions that were listed in the last newsletter – that still need to be filled – hint hint . . . !! Not all of these roles or responsibilities require attendance at Committee meetings – so it would be wonderful if you could offer just a few hours to help out before or during each production and share your skills or talents.

Mainly we will need named supervisory support with Set Design & Construction/Advertising and Sponsorship/Properties Supervisor/Housekeeping; but also additional support with lighting/sound. There is also a shadowing/learning opportunity with our Treasurer Noel Davenport – so if you are good with figures and a rudimentary spreadsheet – please contact us.

My second personal request whether you are a member (acting or non-acting), regular theatre goer, patron – is to forward your suggestions and feedback about what we can do to improve your theatre experience and how we can encourage greater participation in this group (eg group theatre trips, more social evenings at BLT). Also and most importantly: let us know what sort of plays you actually want to see on the BLT stage (ie Classics, Contemporary Drama or Comedy). So, please see the separate item in this newsletter for details about Play Selection.

I look forward to seeing, meeting and welcoming you during this coming season. I will end with the sound of a loud clarion call: –

***Become part of taking
Bournemouth Little Theatre
forward as it heads towards its
100th year anniversary.***

This is your theatre and I want to encourage you all to participate in whatever way you can – new, as well as long time members and to contribute towards building this theatre up as a real hub for creativity, community and collaboration.

Warmest Regards

Rachael

"When choosing between two evils, I generally like to pick the one I've never tried before."

Mae West

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Play readings in the Green Room at 7.30pm

2 Dec 2016, 27 Jan 2017

3 March 2017 and 24 Mar 2017

Contact Gillian Linford on 07590 045425 for further details

2nd December

Social Play Reading

Sunday 18th December 2016 at 7.30pm

Read through of *Temple* by Steve Waters
Director Paul Nelson

Tuesday 20th December 2016 at 7.30pm

Auditions for *Temple* by Steve Waters
Director Paul Nelson

27th January 2017

Social Play Reading

13th to 18th February 2017

Di and Viv and Rose

by Amelia Bullmore Director Rachael de Courcy Beamish

21st–25th February 2017

Pool & Parkstone Players

3rd March 2017

Social Play Reading

24th March 2017

Social Play Reading

3rd to 8th April 2017

Temple

by Steve Waters Director Paul Nelson

20th – 22nd April 2017

Arena Theatre: *The Only Girl in the World*

5th to 10th June 2017

The Bed Before Yesterday

by Ben Travers Director Don Gent



A few quotes from Tom Stoppard:

A healthy attitude is contagious but
don't wait to catch it from others.
Be a carrier.

Every exit is an entry somewhere else.

If you carry your childhood with you,
you never become older.

I think age is a very high price to pay for maturity.

Theatre is a series of insurmountable obstacles on the
road to imminent disaster.

Honesty is seldom ingratiating and often discomfiting.

AUDITION NOTICE

Temple

by Steve Waters

Directed by Paul Nelson

3 – 8 April 2017

Read Through – Sunday 18th December 2016
at 7.30pm

Audition – Tuesday 20th December 2016
at 7.30pm

15 October 2011: a group of protesters, under
the name Occupy London, make camp outside
St Paul's Cathedral.

21 October 2011: a building that had kept open
through floods, the Blitz and terrorist threats
closes its doors.

28 October 2011: the City of London initiates
legal action against Occupy.

Temple is a fictional account of these events set in
the heart of a very British crisis – a crisis of
conscience, a crisis of authority and a crisis of faith.

Characters:

The Dean – Male 50s

The Canon Chancellor – Male 40s

The PA – Female 20s

The Verger – Female 60s

The Bishop of London – Male 60s

Lawyer for the Corporation of the City of London
Female – 30s

2 Choristers – Male (age 10 – but Director will
audition all ages if interested)

For more information, please contact Paul on 07528
536899 / or by e mail at info@arena-theatre.co.uk

**Auditions are open to all, but if you are cast, you must
become a member of Bournemouth Little Theatre.**

Your Council Members

[all codes 01202 unless otherwise stated]

Rachael de Courcy Beamish Chairman / Chairman of Play
Selection Committee / Facebook Organiser 07557 957648

Kerry Newton Hon Secretary / Designated
Premises Supervisor.....07790 722214

Noel Davenport Hon Treasurer.....766690

Mike Bicknell Publicity & LTG Representative516260 / 07528 093908

Lotte Fletcher-Jonk Play Selection Committee.....07905 728333

Virginia Harrington Membership Secretary /
Play Selection Committee.....07871 154404

Not on the Council:

Nicola King Newsletter Editor.....675247

Chris Huggill Bar Stocks Manager.....764369 / 07443626484

Don Gent Duty Rota Organiser.....389725

Published by Bournemouth Little Theatre Club Ltd

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http://www.facebook.com/BLittleTheatre

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Co.reg: 2639332 Charity ref: 1019571

Printed by Big Print Little Print, 1 Ensbury Park Road, Bournemouth